Serial No.: 09/940,201 Art Unit: 2131

REMARKS

The applicant incorporates claim 5 into claim 1 to have a question generating means that the Kanevsky, et al. patent does not disclose.

The examiner asserted that the Kanevsky *et al* patent discloses all features of all claims. After reading the specification of the Kanevsky *et al*. patent, the applicant found that the methods of generating questions differ from the current application.

Firstly, with reference to column 5, lines 31-67, the Q&A module (62) has a static data base (64) for storing static information that cannot change over time, and a dynamic data base (66) for storing dynamic information that changes over time. The Q&A module mainly generates questions to a user to identify corrections of the user's identity. The Q&A module (62) generates questions by incorporating information from the static data base (64) and/or the dynamic data base (64).

With reference to Fig. 5, if the Kanevsky *et al* patent, the Q&A module includes a semantic machine to implement incorporating information means. In column 6, lines 29-59, the semantic machine generates questions by integrating the identified formal properties with the algorithm, and the **formal properties represent information items regarding the user**. With further reference to column 7, lines 46-64, some examples are provided to explain how the Q&A module generates a question by the incorporating information means.

- (1) Formulating questions that link two or more pieces of information together.
- (2) Formulating questions that ask about the relationship among portions of the information.
- (3) Formulating questions that ask about **relative attributes between formal properties**.

According to the specification of the Kanevsky et al. patent, the Kanevsky et al patent only uses the information stored in the static data base and/or dynamic data base to combine or change different questions. That is, the Kanevsky et al. patent does not use the information stored in the data bases to calculate other formal properties and then use the formal properties thus calculated to generate another question. Nor does Kanevsky et al. disclose an astrological based technique for calculating the solution to a generated inferential question, as called for in amended claim 1.

Serial No.: 09/940,201

Art Unit: 2131

Claims 4 and 5 of the current application respectively disclose a generating formal properties (solution) technique. Claim 4 uses the birthday information to calculate new solutions by an Eight diagram basis technique. Claim 5 uses the birthday information to calculate other new solutions by an astrological based technique. Those solutions are used as formal properties to design new questions. Since the formal properties are not information stored in the data bases, the current application has higher secrecy than the Kanevsky *et al.* patent. In order to have this feature differ from the Kanevsky *et al.* patent, the application incorporates claim 5 into claim 1. The applicant believes that the amended claim 1 should overcome the 102 rejection to allowance.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that the claims presently in the case are clearly allowable over the cited prior art and favorable action in that regard is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

David P. Kelley, Reg. No. 17,420

THOMAS, KAYDEN, HORSTEMEYER & RISLEY, L.L.P.

Suite 1750 100 Galleria Parkway N.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30339 (770) 933-9500